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*Southern British Columbia.* Both these records are probably based on collections by Mr. A. J. Hill, one of whose specimens is in Eaton's herbarium at Harvard. There are there, also, two other monomorphic specimens, one collected on the "lower Fraser River, 49 N. Lat." by Dr. Lyall in 1859, the other by Mr. J. B. Flett at Tacoma, Wash., in 1901.

In Europe, monomorphic forms are well known. Milde, in his monograph of the Equisetums, distinguishes two kinds of them. In one, which he calls var. *frondescens*, the fertile stem instead of dying, as usually happens, when the spores are ripe, persists and sends out green branches from at least some of the joints, the fruiting cone and the upper part of the stem withering away. In the other, var. *serotinum*, the sterile stem produces, late in the season, a fruiting cone at the apex. Luerssen says the first form is rather rare but that the second "may be expected occasionally wherever *E. Telmateia* occurs." European botanists agree with Mr. Nelson that drought is the probable cause of these queer forms. Francis, in his book on British Ferns,<sup>1</sup> states that var. *serotinum* can be produced at will in specimens grown in pots simply by cutting off the supply of water at the proper time.

The proliferous form mentioned by Mr. Nelson, in which the stem grows up through the fruiting cone has also been found in Europe. Milde calls it "var. *serotinum* d) *proliferum*."—C. A. W.

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### American Fern Society

Shortly before this number of the JOURNAL went to press, the editors received an interesting and welcome letter from one of the members. In it he said: "It

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<sup>1</sup> Quoted by Clute in *The Fern Allies*, p. 52.

has occurred to me that some interesting articles might be written for the AM. FERN JOURNAL giving short biographical accounts of some of the fern sharps whose names so often appear in the botanies. Pursh, Nuttall, Scott and many others, amateurs like myself (and I imagine most of the members of the Fern Society are not professionals) would like to know something about.

"Again, the specific names of ferns might afford an instructive article, as many of us would like to know what they mean."

Another member writes that, in her opinion, something in the nature of a "primary department" would be desirable in the JOURNAL. "A paper, clear and plain, on some familiar fern and intended for novices in fern study, bringing out some points almost forgotten by advanced students, such as the change in form from the newly uncurled frond, or the wonderful choice of habitat—bringing out the uselessness of hunting for certain ferns where they are unwilling to grow—and other noticeable points—it seems to that such help would be useful to beginners and would be appreciated by them."

The editors are very glad to receive such criticisms and suggestions; we wish more of them were sent in to us. We propose to act on these in future numbers so far as we can. But our available time and our ability are not unlimited; we shall greatly appreciate help in the form of articles along the lines suggested from members who are in a position to write them.

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While in Westmore, Vt., last August I found an abundant growth of *Equisetum pratense* and collected enough for about 25 sheets. These specimens show the plant in good midsummer condition without fruit except the unexpanded next year's fruiting branch

which appears near the base of the main sterile branch. These will be sent to any members of the Fern Society who apply sending a self-addressed envelope not less than nine inches long and bearing a two cent stamp.  
—E. J. WINSLOW, *Auburndale, Mass.*

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To their regret, the Editors have again to apologize for a late number—a state of things due largely to difficulty in getting together sufficient copy. We are glad to say that copy enough for no. 1 of the next volume is already in hand and that number should be well under way before this one reaches our readers.

If late, this is an extra-illustrated number. We are much indebted to Mr. E. H. Clarkson for the fine photographs from which the two plates accompanying his article were made and for defraying the expense both of the plates and of running them as a double-page insert. Thanks are also due Prof. Hopkins for making specially for us the photograph from which Plate 6 was taken.

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### Report of the Judge of Elections

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN FERN SOCIETY:

As Judge of Elections of the Society, I make the following report of the election of Officers held in October, 1919:

Whole number of votes, 91.

<i>For President</i>	<i>For Secretary</i>
William R. Maxon.....91	Stewart H. Burnham.....91
<i>For Vice-President</i>	<i>For Treasurer</i>
Miss M. A. Marshall.....90	Jay G. Underwood.....90

I therefore declare the above persons elected.

DANA W. FELLOWS, *Judge of Elections*  
Portland, Maine, Nov. 5, 1919